

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-12  
OES-07 DOE-15 SOE-02 DOEE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 HA-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00  
COME-00 STR-07 EB-08 /130 W  
-----099797 121519Z /46

O 121451Z APR 78  
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0414  
INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
USMISSION GENEVA  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L DUBLIN 01211

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PEPR, RO, EI  
SUBJECT: CEAUSESCU VISIT TO IRELAND

1. IN WHAT BOTH SIDES ARE BILLING AS AN OFFICIAL VISIT, DESPITE ITS SHORT LENGTH (ABOUT TWO AND ONE-HALF HOURS), ROMANIAN PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU STOPPED OFF AT SHANNON AIRPORT APRIL 11 ON HIS WAY TO WASHINGTON. ALTHOUGH CEAUSESCU HAD REFUELLED AT SHANNON IN 1969, IT WAS THE FIRST OFFICIAL VISIT BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. HE WAS GREETED BY FOREIGN MINISTER MICHAEL O'KENNEDY, HELD TALKS WITH O'KENNEDY, AND THEN GAVE A GOOD-NATURED, NON-SUBSTANTIVE PRESS CONFERENCE.

2. MFA COUNSELOR PADDY MACKERNAN, WHO WAS BACKING UP O'KENNEDY DURING THE SUBSTANTIVE TALKS, TOLD US THAT THE  
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MAIN TOPICS WERE CSCE, THE UPCOMING UN SPECIAL SESSION (UNSSOD), AND THE MIDDLE EAST. ON CSCE CEAUSESCU FIRST SAID HE WAS "SEVERELY DISAPPOINTED" AT THE OUTCOME OF BELGRADE, BUT LATER CORRECTED THIS TO "DISAPPOINTED". HE THEN SAID THAT THE CLIMATE OF "EUROPEAN" RELATIONS MUST IMPROVE BEFORE MADRID, AND THIS CAN BEST BE DONE ON A BILATERAL BASIS. O'KENNEDY TRIED SEVERAL TACKS TO DRAW

CEAUESCU OUT ON THE UPCOMING UNSSOD, BUT, MACKERNAN REPORTS, HE GOT VERY GUARDED ANSWERS. THE IMPRESSION GIVEN WAS THAT CEAUESCU IS NOT EXPECTING MUCH TO COME OUT OF THE UNSSOD.

3. MOST OF THE SUBSTANTIVE TALKS DEALT WITH THE MID-EAST. CEAUESCU CLAIMS TO BE MAINTAINING CLOSE CONTACTS WITH THE KEY FIGURES, E.G., HIS MEETING WITH DAYAN LAST WEEK. HIS GENERAL FEELING IS "GUARDED OPTIMISM," AND HE FEELS THERE IS A POSSIBILITY OF RESUMPTION OF SOME KIND OF A GENEVA MEETING WHICH MIGHT PROCEED "IN PARALLEL" WITH THE BEGIN-SADAT INITIATIVE. CEAUESCU IS ALSO "GUARDEDLY OPTIMISTIC" ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF GETTING AN AGREEMENT ON PRINCIPLES.

4. BILATERAL: ALTHOUGH O'KENNEDY AVOIDED DEFINITELY COMMITTING HIMSELF, IT WAS UNDERSTOOD THAT ROMANIAN-IRISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WOULD BE OPENED SOON. MACKERNAN SAID THAT HE WOULD EXPECT NON-RESIDENT RELATIONS TO BE CONCLUDED WITHIN THE NEXT YEAR, WITH THE IRISH REP PROBABLY COMING FROM ATHENS. THE IRISH, HOWEVER, WANT TO HOLD TRADE TALKS PRIOR TO OPENING RELATIONS -- TRADE BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES IS ALMOST NIL -- AND THE IRISH CONSIDER THE ROMANIANS THE SUITORS IN THIS AFFAIR. 1977 FIGURES INDICATE EXPORTS TO ROMANIA OF 783 THOUSAND POUNDS AND IMPORTS FROM ROMANIA ONE MILLION, NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND  
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POUNDS. THE IRISH BELIEVE THESE FIGURES CAN BE IMPROVED UPON. RENDAHL

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** PEPR, OVIP, RO, EI, (CEAUSESCU, NICOLAE), (O'KENNEDY, MICHAEL)  
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**Review Markings:**  
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